

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12-21, 23-25, and 27-30 are pending. The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 10, 20, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Larson in view of Okanoué. The Examiner has rejected claims 2-4, 7, 15, 17, 21, 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Larson and Okanoué in view of Meubus. The Examiner has rejected claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Larson, Okanoué, Meubus, and Lister. The Examiner has rejected claims 6, 8-9, 12-14, 16, 18-19, 23-24, and 28-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Larson, Okanoué, Meubus, Lister, and Kumar. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his consideration during the telephone interview of November 10, 2004. During that interview applicants' representative and the Examiner discussed the correspondence between the claim elements and Okanoué's computers. It is applicants' understanding that the Examiner believes that applicant's server of a first type, server of a second type, and client correspond to Okanoué's originator, home agent, and mobile host, respectively as discussed in columns 7-11 of Okanoué.

The Examiner relies on Okanoué for teaching "maintaining a first type of servers disposed to manage data of a first type and a second type disposed to store a list of the first type." (Office Action, Sept. 22, 2004, pp. 2-3.) Okanoué describes a system in which mobile hosts can receive messages from an originator of a multicast group even though the mobile host is not currently within the scope of the multicast group. When a multicast group is announced, home agents that are within the scope of the multicast group receive an announcement message for the multicast group. The home agents that are within the scope can forward messages that it receives to associated mobile hosts that are not within the scope. The home agents can maintain a table of multicast groups (e.g., the Group Characteristic Table of Figure 10) for which they are within the scope.

Presumably, the Examiner believes that the Okanoué's table of a home agent corresponds to the "list of the at least one servers of the first type" of the server of the second type as recited, for example, in claim 1. The Examiner relies upon Larson as showing selection of a conference from a list of conferences.

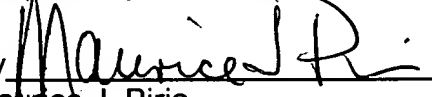
The Examiner believes that the combination of Okanoué and Larson would render obvious the independent claims. Applicants respectfully disagree for several reasons. First, each of the independent claims recites querying a server to obtain a list of servers. Claims 1, 20, and 25 recite "query to obtain the server list." Claim 10 recites "querying . . . the server of the second type . . . to learn of the server of the first type." Since Larson does not teach such querying, the Examiner relies on Okanoué. Okanoué, however, neither teaches nor suggests that a host agent is queried (e.g., by a mobile agent) for its table of multicast groups to obtain a list of originators.

Second, each of the claims recite that the servers in the list are queried. Even assuming, *arguendo*, that Okanoué's host agent is somehow queried for its table of multicast groups, there is nothing in Okanoué to suggest that the originators of a multicast group, as indicated by the list, are queried as recited by the claims. Claim 1, 20, and 25 recite "query each server on the server list." Claim 10 recites "querying . . . the server of the first type." In addition, applicant respectfully submits that the relied-upon references neither teach nor suggest the combination of elements as recited by the claims.

Based upon these remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application and its early allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-8548.

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Respectfully submitted,

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